

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 18, 19, 36, 38, 41, 46, 52, 54, and 55 are amended. Claims 17, 23-29, 34, 35, 40, 42, 43, 45, 53, 57-61, 64-70, and 79-91 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-16, 18-22, 30-33, 36-39, 41, 44, 46-52, 54-56, 62, 63, and 71-78 are pending in this application.

Allowable Claims

Claims 30-33, 62, and 63 stand allowed.

Claims 17-21, 40, 41, and 53-56 stand objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable claim 17. Claims 2-16, 18-22, and 71-74 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-16, 18-22, and 71-74 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 36 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable claim 40. Claims 37-39, 41, and 44 depend from claim 36. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 36-39, 41, and 44 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 46 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable claim 53. Claims 47-52 and 75-78 depend from claim 46. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 46-52 and 75-78 are in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 103

As part of this Response, the claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 have either been canceled or amended to include elements of an allowable claim. These cancellations and amendments have been made in order to expedite issuance of the allowed and allowable claims. These cancellations and amendments have not been made to overcome, and should not be interpreted as having been made to overcome, the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in one or more continuation applications.

Conclusion

Claims 1-16, 18-22, 30-33, 36-39, 41, 44, 46-52, 54-56, 62, 63, and 71-78 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 2/18/05

By: [Signature]
Allan T. Sponseller
Reg. No. 38,318
(509) 324-9256